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MEN'S TENNIS



Bonet, Novakova Capture ITA Regional Singles Titles on Monday





Posted: Sep 29, 2008

SUMTER, S.C. - Armstrong Atlantic State freshmen Eudaldo Bonet and Sona Novakova each captured the ITA Southeast Regional singles titles on Monday at the Palmetto Tennis Center in Sumter, S.C.

The duo will now advance to the 2008 ITA National Small College Championships in Mobile, Ala., on October 16-19. Head coach **Simon Earnshaw** has coached the region champion in singles now in consecutive seasons as Bonet joins Robert Jendelund (2007) and Novakova joins Johanna Dahlback (2007) as champions for the Pirates.

Bonet, a freshman from Barcelona, Spain, advanced to the singles final with a 6-4, 6-4 win over teammate Paul Bishop. A 9-16 seed in the draw, Bonet then defeated No. 4 seed Bruno Seves of USC Aiken, 6-0, 6-2, in the final. Making his Pirate debut, Bonet will now compete against the other seven DII regional singles winners in the Small College National Championships in Mobile.

Novakova, a freshman from Slapanice in the Czech Republic, also advanced to the singles final with a win over a teammate as she defeated No. 4 seed Gabriella Kovacs, 6-1, 6-3. A 9-16 seed in the draw, Novakova then knocked off No. 3 seed Eva Petschnig of Columbus State, 7-5, 7-5, to join Bonet in Mobile.

The Pirates did not fare so well in doubles play as the men's top-seeded duo of Rafael Array and Tim Johannsen lost to the No. 4-seeded duo of Siqueira and Pickham of GCSU, 8-4, in the semifinals. The women's top-seeded duo of Alida Muller-Wehlau and Martina Beckmann defeated teammates Kathleen Henry and Alisa Kagukina, 8-2, to advance to the final, but the pair lost to 5-8 seed Semyrodenko and White of Clayton State, 8-6.

Bonet and Novakova will have a chance to represent the Pirates in the ITA Super Bowl of Small College Tennis if they can capture the DII singles championships in Mobile. AASU has had two Super Bowl champions in school history: Zsafia Golopencza in 2003 and Johanna Dahlback last season, in 2007.





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